

Exploitation of Greek Sources

The American Embassy in Athens, in despatch No. 734 of April 23, 1957, transmitted a selection of documents taken from a quantity which had been obtained from the Greek Foreign Ministry. These documents, in the Greek language, were reports originating in the Royal Greek Legation in Sofia. The Embassy Athens requested that the Department evaluate these reports and indicate what interest it would have in the continued receipt thereof. On receipt of the abovementioned despatch with the enclosed documents, State/IAD called a meeting on June 22, 1957 with representatives of State/DRS, and Central Intelligence Agency's OGI, ORR, and FDD. The following decisions were reached:

1. Because of the paucity of intelligence information from Bulgaria, any potential source of material should be scrutinized for its value.
2. The sample documents, primarily concerning Bulgarian economic affairs, suggest that this source could be of greater value if a more adequate selection could be received for indications of possible economic statistical and political content.
3. A six-month inter-agency evaluation program should be instituted for review of these materials. This program is to be developed as follows:
 - a. State/IAD would instruct Embassy Athens to forward those reports still retained and those which can be obtained during the next six months.
 - b. Those reports transmitted to Washington would be reviewed by FDD's Greek and Bulgarian sections for originality of content. New material will be translated and disseminated throughout the intelligence community for evaluation and assessment of interest in continued receipt of such reports.

State/IAD stated that it would bring this program to the attention of the Subcommittee on Exploitation for the purpose of establishing a priority and to obtain the requisite assistance for the FDD Greek and Bulgarian sections.

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